

**KEVIN  
POELKING**

**UNCOMMON  
PERFORMANCE  
ACCEPTED**

**Perusal Score - Not for Performance**

# Unexpected Places (2023)

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## Instrumentation

2 Flutes  
2 Oboes  
2 Bb Clarinets (Parts in A available)  
2 Bassoons

2 F Horns  
2 C Trumpets  
2-3 Trombones\*  
0-1 Tuba\*

Timpani

1 Percussion (or more)  
*Glockenspiel, High-pitched metal, Snare drum, Low tom or kick drum, Tambourine*

Strings

\*Bass Trombone/ Tuba part provided for more flexible instrumentation. Both parts can be played at the conductor's discretion. Lower pitches are preferred when possible if there is only one player.

Duration: ca 4 ½ minutes

## Note from the Composer:

Somewhere around 20,000 feet on a cross-country plane ride, I realized that I had only two albums downloaded to my phone: the complete Beethoven Symphonies, and a thrash metal album- a genre that was recommended to me by one of my university students. At the same time, I had just started to look for inspiration for a new commission with Adam Torres and the Stratus Chamber Orchestra...

While my compositional voice is frequently influenced by multiple genres, this piece of music is a more deliberate and conscious attempt in bringing them together. The title refers to the idea of inspiration coming from *Unexpected Places*, but I also found it irresistible to follow this idea for the music itself, with wild and surprising moments throughout.

*Unexpected Places* is an homage to the amazing creators in all genres of music. To stay true to the inspiration from that initial four-hour plane ride, about halfway through the music, the listener will hear light, "classical" eighth notes outline the keys of all nine of Beethoven's symphonies until they are suddenly met with a guttural, heavy metal "scream".

***Unexpected Places* was commissioned by  
Adam Torres and the Stratus Chamber Orchestra**

*More information, recordings, composer bio and contact at  
[KevinPoelking.com](http://KevinPoelking.com)*

**KP**music

Original cover photo by Mariola Grobleska

Score

for The Stratus Chamber Orchestra  
**Unexpected Places**

Kevin Poelking (2023)

Misterioso ♩ = 108

Flute 1

Flute 2

Oboe 1

Oboe 2

Clarinet in B $\flat$  1

Clarinet in B $\flat$  2

Bassoon 1

Bassoon 2

Horn in F 1

Horn in F 2

Trumpet in C 1

Trumpet in C 2

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Bass Trombone and/or Tuba

Timpani

Percussion

Violin I

Violin II

Cello

Contrabass

if one player perform lower notes when possible

*ppp* cresc. a m. 18

*ppp*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
*cresc. a m. 18*

B $\flat$  Cl. 2  
*ppp*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2  
*ppp*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./  
Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I  
*n. cresc. a m. 18*

Vln. II

Vla.  
*n. cresc. a m. 18*

V.

Cb.

Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*pp cresc. a m. 18*  
*p*  
*mp*  
*mf*  
*ppp*  
*ppp*  
*ppp*  
*ppp cresc. a m. 18*  
*ppp cresc. a m. 18*  
*div.*  
*la metá*

11 12 13 14 15

Refusal Score - Not for Performance









Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*Perusal Score - Not for Performance*

mute in  
mute in  
n. *mf*  
n. *mf*  
pizz.  
pizz.  
unis.  
n. *mf*  
n. *mf*



Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B $\flat$  Cl. 1  
B $\flat$  Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./  
Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.





Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
V.  
Cb.

High-pitched metal with sticks (snares off)  
Kick drum or Low tom  
f  
unis.





ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
f  
f  
f  
f  
f  
f  
mf  
mf

Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./  
Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

Not for Performance





Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

*mp* *f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*mp* *f*

*flz.* *p* *f*

*flz.* *p* *f*

*flz.* *p* *f*

*p* *f*

*mf*

*gliss.*







Fl. 1 *mp*

Fl. 2 *mp*

Ob. 1 *sfz* multiphonic ad lib. (lower pitches more prominent)

Ob. 2 *sfz* multiphonic ad lib. (lower pitches more prominent)

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Bsn. 1 *f* biting!

Bsn. 2 *f* biting!

Hn. 1 *ff* biting!

Hn. 2 *ff* biting!

C Tpt. 1 *ff*

C Tpt. 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff* mute in *f* biting! straight mute

Tbn. 2 *ff* mute in *f* biting! straight mute

B. Tbn./Tba *ff* mute in *f* biting! straight mute

Timp. *f* shares off

Perc.

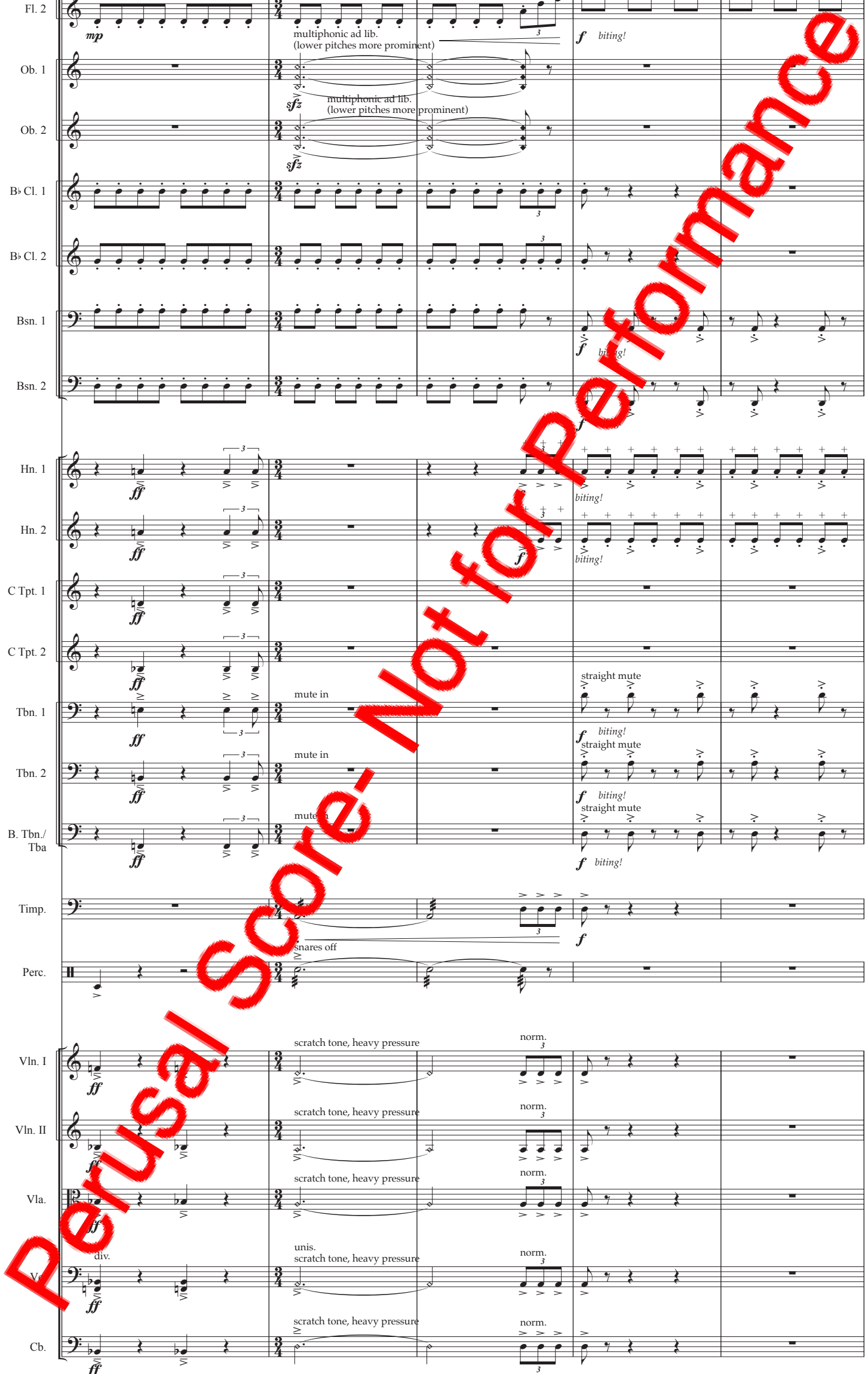
Vln. I *ff* scratch tone, heavy pressure norm. 3

Vln. II *ff* scratch tone, heavy pressure norm. 3

Vla. *ff* scratch tone, heavy pressure norm. 3

V. *ff* div. unis. scratch tone, heavy pressure norm. 3

Cb. *ff* scratch tone, heavy pressure norm. 3





Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cb.

*ff*

*f*

*ff*

*f* boldly, spirited

*mf*

*f*

*ff*

*ff*

*f*

remove mute

*ff*

remove mute

*ff*

remove mute

*ff*

*n.*

*f*

Sul E, highest pitch

*gliss.*

Sul A, highest pitch

*gliss.*

Sul A, highest pitch

*gliss.*

Sul G, highest pitch

*gliss.*

Sul D, highest pitch

*gliss.*

*n.*

*f*

Not for Performance

Perusal Score!





Fl. 1 *p* *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

Ob. 1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Bsn. 1 *f*

Bsn. 2 *f*

Hn. 1 *pp* *f*

Hn. 2 *pp* *f*

C Tpt. 1 *pp* *f*

C Tpt. 2 *pp* *f*

Tbn. 1 *pp* *f*

Tbn. 2 *mf* *f*

B. Tbn./Tba *mf* *f*

Timp. *pp* *f*

Perc. *pp* Glock. with soft mallets

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vcl. *ff* div.

Cb. *ff*

Refusal Score! Not for Performance

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B $\flat$  Cl. 1

B $\flat$  Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

V.

Cb.

multiphonic ad lib.  
(mid-hi pitches more "nine")

*pp* *mp*

"silent fingering" random pitches ad lib.

*p*

*p*

unis.

*pp*

*pp*

Perusal Score - Not for Performance

Fl. 1 *p*

Fl. 2 *p*

Ob. 1

Ob. 2 *pp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *p*

B♭ Cl. 2 *mp*

Bsn. 1 *pp* *p* *p* *mp*

Bsn. 2 *pp* *mp* *p*

Hn. 1 *n.* *mf* *n.*

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp. *ppp* *p*

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II *div.* *pp*

Vla. *norm.* *pp*

Vcllo *mp* *p*

Cb. *mp* *p*

Perusal Score - Not for Performance

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcllo

Cb.

*mf*

*pp*

*mp*

*p*

*n.*

*remove mute*

*shares on*

*ppp*

*pp*

*mf*

*off the string*

*le altre*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1  
*mp*

Ob. 2  
*mp*

B♭ Cl. 1  
*p*

B♭ Cl. 2  
*p*

Bsn. 1  
*p*

Bsn. 2  
*p*

Hn. 1  
*p*

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1  
*p*

Tbn. 2  
*p*

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.  
*p*

Perc.  
*pp*  
Tamb.

Vln. I  
tutti  
div.

Vln. II  
unis.

Vla.  
div.

V.

Cb.



Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.

*f n.*  
*f n.*  
*f n.*  
*f n.*  
*f n.*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*mp*  
*open*  
*mp*  
*open*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*p*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*fpp*  
*Glock.*  
*f*  
*unis.*  
*fpp*  
*unis.*  
*fpp*  
*fpp*  
*f*  
*fpp*

*p*  
*open*  
*open*

111 112 113 114



Fl. 1  
Fl. 2  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
C Tpt. 1  
C Tpt. 2  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
B. Tbn./Tba  
Timp.  
Perc.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
Cb.





Fl. 1 *flz.* *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

Ob. 1 *f* *ff*

Ob. 2 *f* *ff* *secco e aggressivo*

B♭ Cl. 1 *secco e aggressivo* *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *secco e aggressivo* *f*

Bsn. 1 *secco e aggressivo* *ff*

Bsn. 2 *secco e aggressivo* *ff*

Hn. 1 *f*

Hn. 2 *f*

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba *f* *ff*

Timp. *ppp* *f*

Perc. *f* *Tamb.*

Vln. I

Vln. II *secco e aggressivo*

Vla.

Vc. *f* *secco e aggressivo* *ff* *div.*

Cb. *f* *ff* *secco e aggressivo*

Perusal Score - Not for Performance

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn./Tba

Timp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*mf*

*mf*

*f*

*ppp*

*f*

[K.D.]

(snare on)

unis.

